

Refer to: MPC5

March 18, 2003

Mary B. Kennedy, Medicaid Director
Assistant Commissioner, Health Care Administration
Minnesota Department of Human Services
444 Lafayette Road North
Saint Paul, MN 55155-3852

Dear Ms. Kennedy:

I am pleased to inform you that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is approving Minnesota's request for a two year continuation of its Consolidated Chemical Dependency Treatment Fund (CCDTF). The waiver, CMS control number MN01.R06, operates under the authority of §1915(b)(1), §1915(b)(4), §1902(a)(23), and §1902(a)(30) of the Social Security Act. Minnesota's request is approved for the two year period beginning March 24, 2003 and ending on March 23, 2005.

This decision is based on the submitted evidence showing that the State's waiver program is consistent with the purpose of the Medicaid program, will maintain quality of care, and will be a cost-effective means of providing Medicaid services to Minnesota Medicaid recipients.

Because the CCDTF program has been operated successfully for more than 4 years, Minnesota will not be required to conduct an independent assessment of the waiver. The State is required, however, to conduct its own assessment of waiver program quality, access and cost-effectiveness for the purposes of any future renewal request. Additionally, at the next renewal period, CMS requests that the State provide evidence to document the State's assurances of the number of diversions from Medicaid inpatient facilities to alternative care settings that are not covered by Medicaid.

I congratulate the State on past accomplishments under this waiver program and wish you and your staff continued success in the future. If you require additional information, you may contact Cynthia Garraway of my staff at (312) 353-8583.

Sincerely,

/s/ by af
Cheryl A. Harris
Associate Regional Administrator
Division of Medicaid and Children's Health

cc: Theresa Pratt, CMS Baltimore
Doris Ross, CMS Chicago
Jennifer Jenson, OMB
S. Lindsay Lonergan, HRSA
Rita Vandivort-Warren, SAMHSA